will also avail other employment opportunities such as working on their own fields and the fields of other farmers as well as under other Government programmes. During 2006-07, average number of days of employment provided per household was 43 days and during 2007-08 (upto January-08) this average is 41 days for phase-I districts, 23 days for phase-II districts and the overall average is 36 days. NREGA has now been extended to all the remaining districts of the country with effect from 01.04.2008.

Direction to States to adopt PWD schedule of rates

1368. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new guidelines have been issued on NREG scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether his Ministry has directed the States to adopt PWD schedule of rates of NREG scheme works;

(d) if so, whether there is any justification in the contention of the State officials that the PWD works cannot be compared with works undertaken under NREG scheme; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Ministry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) and (b) Operational Guidelines, 2006 had been framed by the Ministry in January 20, 2006 and these have been revised on December 2006.

(c) No, Sir. The directives issued in this regard to the States refer to the clarification that Schedule of rates (SORs) of various executing agencies for similar nature of activities and outputs in the same area must be same. States have also been asked to get these SORs notified by the competent authority of the State as SORs would have horizontal application across the departments/agencies.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Amount sanctioned under NREGS

1369. DR. BARUN MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount sanctioned so far under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, with State-wise break-up;

(b) the total amount spent so far by the States under the scheme, with State and year-wise break-up; and

(c) the total number of people who got employment and for how many days each, with State-wise break-up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) to (c) State-wise details of the funds released by the Centre, funds utilized by the States out of the total available funds, number of households provided employment and the average numbers of days worked by each household are given in the enclosed Statement.